



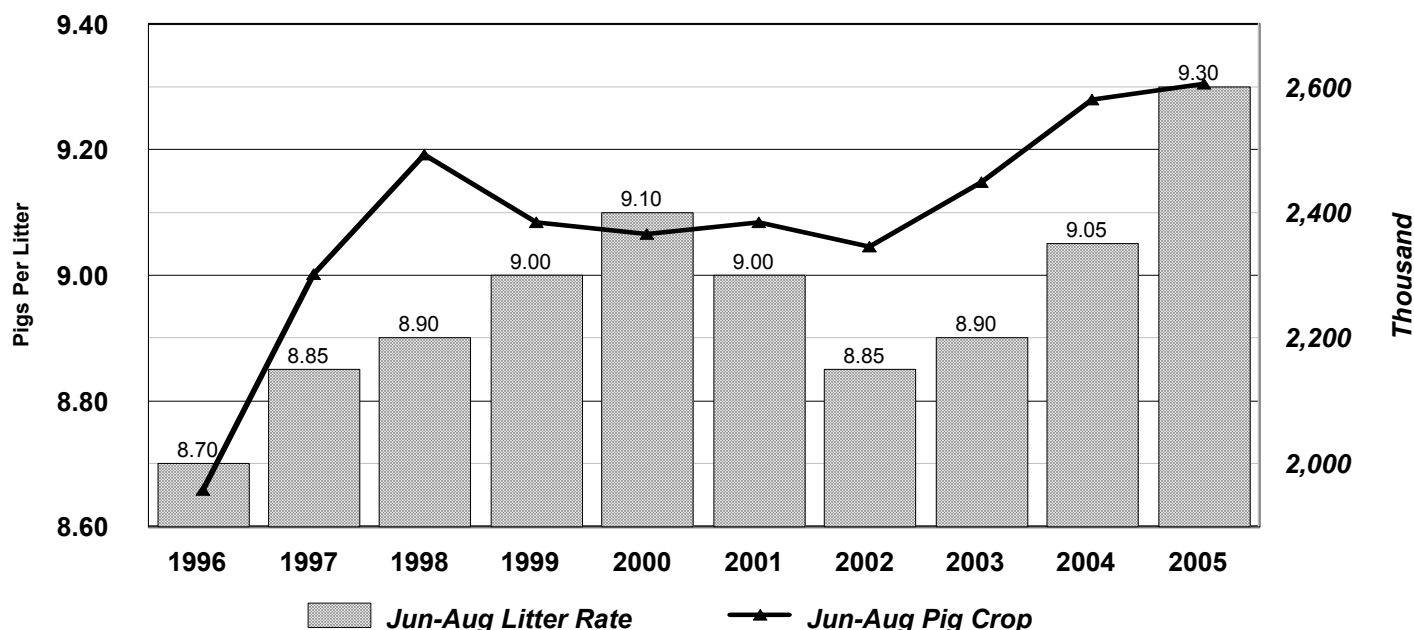
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MINNESOTA HOG NUMBERS UP 3 PERCENT FROM JUNE

Minnesota hog producers had an inventory of 6.80 million hogs and pigs on September 1, 2005, up 3 percent from the year earlier and up 3 percent from the June 1, 2005 figure, according to USDA, NASS Minnesota Field Office. This is a new record All Hogs & Pigs inventory for any quarter. Breeding hogs totaled 600 thousand, up 2 percent from a year earlier and market hogs and pigs at 6.20 million, were up 3 percent from a year ago.

Market hogs in the under 60 pound weight group were up 1 percent from last year. The 60-119 pound weight group were up 4 percent. Hog numbers in the 120-179 pound group were up 6 percent from last year, while the 180+ pound group was up 2 percent from a year ago.

**June-August Pig Crop and Pigs Per Litter
 Minnesota 1996-2005**



STATE PIG CROP UP 4 PERCENT FROM LAST QUARTER

Minnesota's June-August 2005 pig crop totaled 2.60 million head, up 1 percent from a year earlier but down slightly from the March-May 2005 pig crop. The 280 thousand sows that farrowed averaged 9.30 pigs per litter, up from 9.05 a year ago. This is a new record litter rate and pig crop for the June-August quarter.

SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2005 AND DECEMBER 2005-FEBRUARY 2006 INTENTIONS

Hog producers in Minnesota intend to farrow 280 thousand sows during the September-November 2005 quarter. If realized this would be down 2 percent from the same period in 2004. Producers intend to farrow 280 thousand sows during the December 2005-February 2006 quarter. If realized, this would up 2 percent from the same period the previous year.

(See back page for U.S. highlights)

U.S. Hog Inventory Up Slightly

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 2005 was 61.5 million head. This was up slightly from September 1, 2004, and up 1 percent from June 1, 2005.

Breeding inventory, at 5.97 million head, was up less than 1 percent from last year but down less than 1 percent from last quarter. **Market hog inventory**, at 55.6 million head, was virtually unchanged from last year but up 2 percent from last quarter.

The June - August 2005 U.S. pig crop, at 26.3 million head, was up slightly from 2004 and up 1 percent from 2003. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.90 million head, down slightly from last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 49 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.07 for the June-August 2005 period, compared to 9.01 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.60 for operations with 1-99 hogs and pigs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.89 million sows farrow during the September-November 2005 quarter, unchanged from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2004, but up 1 percent from 2003. Intended farrowings for December 2005-February 2006, at 2.88 million sows, are up 1 percent from both 2005 and 2004.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 39 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, unchanged from last year.

Revisions

All inventory and pig crop estimates for September 2004 through June 2005 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, death loss, and updated import and export data. Based on the findings of this review, an adjustment of less than one-half of one percent was made to the March 2005 and June 2005 total inventory. An adjustment of slightly larger than one-half of one percent was made to the December 2004-February 2005 pig crop.

**Monthly Farrowings: Number of Sows, Pigs per Litter, and Pig Crop,
United States, December-November 2004-2005^{1 2}**

Month	Sows Farrowing		Pigs per Litter		Pig Crop	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Number	Number	1,000 Head	1,000 Head
Dec ¹	935	938	8.84	8.89	8,265	8,339
Jan	954	951	8.86	8.94	8,448	8,501
Feb	947	946	8.86	8.99	8,392	8,506
Mar	958	959	8.89	9.01	8,515	8,641
Apr	957	958	8.93	9.01	8,550	8,631
May	955	953	8.97	9.04	8,568	8,612
Jun	978	964	8.99	9.06	8,792	8,734
Jul	970	973	9.00	9.04	8,730	8,800
Aug	957	961	9.03	9.09	8,640	8,739
Sep	981		8.94		8,771	
Oct	961		8.96		8,611	
Nov	946		8.98		8,499	
Total	11,498		8.94		102,780	

¹ December preceding year.

² Monthly values may not add to quarterly or annual totals due to rounding.